



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

October 25, 2007

Reply To: OWW-130

Denise E. Mills  
Section Manager  
Water Quality Program  
Central Regional Office  
Department of Ecology  
15 West Yakima Ave, Suite 200  
Yakima, WA 98902-3452

Re: Withdrawal of Clean Water Act Section 401 Certification Request for the NPDES  
Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery Permit (Permit No. WA-000190-2)

*Denise*  
Dear Ms. Mills:

As you are aware, on October 30, 2006, EPA Region 10 sent a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 certification request to the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) for an EPA proposed NPDES permit for the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery facility. As you explained in our July 5th meeting, EPA recently approved new Washington water quality standards including the antidegradation standards. As a result, in order to issue an adequate CWA Section 401 certification, Ecology needs additional time to conduct an antidegradation analysis that meets the new water quality standard. As such, per this letter, we are withdrawing our request for CWA Section 401 certification at this time. When the antidegradation analysis is complete, EPA will resubmit a request for CWA Section 401 certification of the NPDES permit. Upon resubmittal of the request, we will work with your office on an expedited certification schedule so that we can issue the final NPDES permit as soon as practicable.

Please contact me at (206) 553-1755 or email at [lidgard.michael@epa.gov](mailto:lidgard.michael@epa.gov) if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Lidgard".

Michael J. Lidgard, Manager  
NPDES Permits Unit